[*Translation*]

Free Trade Zone in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

1377. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Free Trade Zone in Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Ban on Export of Ivory and its Handicraft Products

1378. SHRI PRITVIRAJ B. CHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to ban export of ivory and handicraft products made of ivory; and

(b) if so, the approximate loss of foreign exchange per year as a result thereof?

THE MINITER OF STATE OF THE MINITRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Export of Ivory and product made therefrom has been banned from 30.3.1990.

The export made during the preceding 3 years, indicate the/likely loss of foreign exchange on account of the ban:-

Qty. in Kgs. *Value in Rs. lakhs.*

Sl. No.	*Description of items*	*1987-88*		*1988-89*		*1989-90*	
		Qty.	*Value*	*Qty.*	*Value*	*Qty.*	*Value*
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*
1.	Ivory unworked or supply prepared.	—	—	—	—	—	—
2.	Powder and whole of Ivory.	93	0.18	—	—	—	—
3.	Ivory manufactures of artware.	N.A.	75.66	—	58.55	—	44.68

Source : Monthly statistics of Foreign Trade of India Vol.I 87-89 (Exports), published by
87-89 Director General, Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Calcutta.

89-90 Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), West Block VII, R.K Puram, New Delhi-66.

New Norms of Exports

1379. SHRI R. SUREENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have laid down new norms of exports with a view to liberalise th policy framework for the 100 per cent export-oriented Units and Export Processing zones;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which these norms will be helpful for exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). A revised procedure of considering applications under 100% EOUs and EPZ Schemes had been introduced a longwith dalegation of some specific powers of Board of Approvals/Administrative Ministrias to Devalopment Commissioners of EPZs. Certain procedural simplifications have also been effected.

(c). With the procedural simplification and delecation of powers, tha units working under the two Schemes are expected to give better performance.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of an Agency to Supervise Functioning of Sick Public Sector Units

1380. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the workload and the jurisdiction of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction has increased manifold;

(b) if so, whether any parallel agency is proposed to be set up to supervise the functioning of the sick public sector units; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[*English*]

Selling Price of VSF and HWM FIBRE.

1381. SHRI KARIYA MUNDA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the companies manufacturing viscose staple fibre and High Wiscosity Manomer fibre in the country and the prices at which these fibres were sold in January, 1990;

(b) whether the price of Viscose Staple Fibre has been increased a number of times during the last two years;

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check price rise thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to take over distribution of indigenous Viscose Staple Fibre and also fix the price thereof; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) A Statement is attached.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There is no statutory price control on V.S.F. The price increases can be attributed to the overall increase in the prices of almost all commodities, raw materials/input used in the manufacture of V.S.F. , Government levies, wages, etc.

(d) At present there is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.